

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

/058 W

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R 251228Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

SECSTATE WASHDC 6070

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4074

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KU, IZ, PLOS

SUBJ: GULF FOREIGN MINISTER'S CONFERENCE: AGENDA AND
PARTICIPATION

REF: (A) TEHRAN 8434, (B) KUWAIT 3898

1. WE DOUBT THAT RUZOUQI HAD ANYTHING UNUSUAL OR NEWSWORTHY
IN MIND CONCERNING IRAQI/IRANIAN RELATIONS WHEN HE TALKED
TO US OF GULF FOM MINS MEETING (KUWAIT REFTEL). TEHRAN
REFTEL MAKES POINT THAT IRAN-IRAQ RELATIONS ARE BETTER NOW
THAN FOR YEARS PAST. AS INDICATED PARA 3 KUWAIT REFTEL,
MFA LEGAL DEPARTMENT HEAD, RUZOUQI, ACKNOWLEDGES THAT IRAQ
AND IRAN HAVE NOW SETTLED MAJOR DIFFERENCES, THUS MAKING
IT POSSIBLE TO CONSIDER MULTILATERAL GULF SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS.
RUZOUQI, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY SHARES EMBASSY TEHRAN'S
VIEW THAT SWEETNESS AND LIGHT ARE STILL NOT PRIMARY INDICIA
OF IRAQI/IRANIAN RELATIONS, AND THAT THOSE TWO STATES ARE
POLES APART ON WHO SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO GULF WATERS.

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IN OUR CONVERSATION, RUZOUQI MADE NO REFERENCE TO SPECIFIC

IRAQI/IRANIAN BORDER ISSUES, BUT SEEMED TO DISPLAY IMPRESSION
THAT BOTH SIDES MAY STILL HARBOR DOUBTS ABOUT INTENTIONS
OF THE OTHER. (RUZOUQI'S ATTITUDE PERHAPS COLORED BY HIS
KNOWLEDGE THAT IRAQIS CONSISTENTLY STONEWALL GOK CONCERNING
THEIR BILATERAL BORDER PROBLEM.) HIS ASSERTION THAT THERE
NOW LITTLE IMMEDIATE PRSPECT OF STILL FURTHER SUTURE
IMPROVEMENT ON OUTSTANDING IRANIAN-IRAQI ISSUES STRIKES
US AS CONSISTENT WITH TEHRAN REFTEL, THOUGH PERHAPS THERE
ARE PROSPECTS OF WHICH RUZOUQI UNAWARE AND OF WHICH THAT
TELEGCAM MAKES NO MENTION. IN ANY CASE, THE TRUTH ABOUT
IRAQI/IRANIAN RELATIONS IS SURELY GOING TO CONTINUE TO
EMERGE, MORE FROM EMBASSY TEHRAN AND USINT BAGHDAD THAN
FROM EVEN THE BEST INFORMED KUWAITI SOURCES.
MAESTRONE

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